



SNAPSHOT

Newsletter of the Hermanus Photographic Society
May 2017

View from the chair

Comparing apples and oysters?

The challenge of having to compare things that appear to be incomparable, is universally recognised in proverbs.

To some extent, we are also faced with such a challenge in our club's monthly evaluation of images.

In English, the common expression is "comparing apples and oranges". In at least 15 other languages, including Afrikaans, it is about "apples and pears", according to various websites dealing with the subject.

A quaint expression is the Serbian one, "comparing grandmothers and toads".

The history of these expressions go back several centuries. According to the "American Heritage Dictionary of Idioms" of 1997, the fruit-related metaphors for dissimilarity began as "apples and oysters", which appeared in one John Ray's proverb collection of 1670.

Ironically, two tongue-in-cheek scientific studies on the comparison of apples and oranges, both concluded that these fruits can be compared fairly easily, and that the two fruits are quite similar, Wikipedia reports.

In photography we are faced with challenges such as having to compare an image of a lioness catching a buck, with that of an arrangement composed with spices, or an image of umbrellas that had been heavily manipulated in Photoshop. These comparisons are possible, as long as we have the tools.



An important tool for comparing and evaluating images is categorisation, where similarities (by implication) and differences are defined. The onus is on the photographer to indicate the correct category, to enable the judge to evaluate the image as, for example, Nature, Still Life, or the more experimental Contemporary.

This issue of accurately categorising images was mentioned by the lead judge, Treurnicht du Toit, in his evaluation feedback at our May meeting. Quite a few images submitted for evaluation, were entered in an inappropriate category.

The panel of judges had decided to be lenient this time, because we have a number of new, less experienced members. And we want all members to experience the monthly evaluation as one of the constructive activities of the club, through which they can grow as photographers.

But we should all do our bit to improve and keep up the quality of our activities. That includes the evaluation process.

Let's have a good look at the definitions of the various categories before submitting our images, in order to indicate correctly if our image is to be evaluated as a proverbial apple, pear, orange, or even oyster. The definitions can be found on our website. Click "How to submit your work", and then open Rules & Regulations.

Charles Naudé

Another starry, starry night

Another member was promoted, this time from one to two stars, while two more gained two medals, two certificates of merit, and a bagful of salon acceptances between them during the last month.

Diane Steenkamp overshot the 5



'Mettlesome' by Treurnicht du Toit - Silver Medal at Sydney Harbour Salon.

Gold Awards required for promotion to Two Star by 3, and the required 20 points by 14 in a very short time, during which she also achieved two successive Images of the Month.

Her next target is 40 points and 10 Gold Awards for promotion to Three Star.

Treurnicht du Toit and Robert Johnson are the two regular salon masters.

Treurnicht was awarded two Silver Medals and 7 international acceptances for exhibition of his images at the Sydney Harbour International Salon; and a Certificate of Merit and a total of 9 acceptances at the Tygerberg and Bosveld Salons.

Robert was awarded a Certificate of Merit and 6 acceptances at the Tygerberg Salon.



'Jack' by Robert Johnson - Certificate of Merit at Tygerberg.

Another two members join the Club

Another month, another two new members. David Wilson and Lauren Lowenburg have joined the Club, while three or four guests attended the May monthly meeting.

Activities for May and June

A photo-shoot visit to the Wijnland Auto Museum in Joostenbergvlakte, where we will have the opportunity to explore the possibilities at the old car graveyard, has been arranged by René Dewar for Saturday 13 May. We will leave Hermanus early, traveling together, to be there in good light. Contact René at rdewar@telkomsa.net by Tuesday 9 May for details.



A curvy old car in the snow, found on the website jeffswoodnart.com.

The Set Subject for June will be “Wheels of time”, which is linked to the visit to the car graveyard, and to the talk on using lines and curves in composing images, presented by Thea Erasmus at the May meeting.

The June meeting will be in the Dutch Reformed Church Hall, as usual, on Wednesday the 7th at 19:00. Members may enter up to three images of their choice for evaluation, and one image on the Set Subject for discussion. The best set-subject image will be decided by voting.

The Set Subject for July will be “Light, camera, action”. It will accommodate images from the FynArts festival from 9-18 June, and other kinds of action, especially where light plays an important role. That includes images of plunging water drops, a subject on which Elizma Fourie will present a workshop on Thursday 22 June.



*A plunging water drop, from the website
koshersamurai.wordpress.com*

Dealing with small things in life

By René Dewar

It began with Elizma Fourie’s presentation on Macro Photography at the Club’s April meeting. We were all truly impressed with her great macro shots, and the audio-visual of macro shots she had put together.

On Thursday 13 April at 09:00 a group of members met at Elizma’s house to learn more about macro photography.

Learn more, we certainly did. Elizma gave us a hands-on lesson about the correct camera settings for macro photography. She also showed us how to make our own flash extenders from re-cycled materials. We then proceeded to take photographs inside the room and outside in the garden.

What made the morning so special, was that Elizma was kind enough to share her extensive macro knowledge, the tricks as well as the various accessories she uses, with us.

We all left having learnt a lot, as well as being inspired by her enthusiasm, to further explore this genre of photography.

It struck me once more how fortunate we are in our Club to have so many talented and experienced photographers who are willing to share their knowledge.

Audio-visual interest group

By Deon Kühn

The AV Interest Group had its regular meeting on 12 April, attended by a representative of the Kleinmond Kiekie Klub, Nico Jacobs.

It was originally planned to have the topic of "Script writing for AV" as the event of the evening. However, there was such enthusiastic AV showing that very little time was spent on script writing.

The Group decided to take on a "30 photos in 30 days" challenge over the next months. This means that each participant has to take one photo per day on a daily pre-set subject or condition over a 30 day period.

The resultant 30 photos must then be assembled with music and/or text as an AV, and presented to the group at our meeting on 9 August. Most likely the Kleinmond group will participate in this challenge.

The next meeting of the AV Interest Group is on Wednesday, 14 June, at 19:00 in the Prayer Room of the NG Kerk Annexe. The topic will be "What is new in Pictures to Exe 9".

The cost of participation is R20 per person.

For more information, contact Deon Kühn at gjkuhn@netactive.co.za or Thea Erasmus at baytree@netactive.co.za

FynArts 2017, here we come

Hermanus Photographic Society members will exhibit their finest prints as part of the FynArts 2017 festival in June, after the success of last year's exhibition.

The title of the exhibition, "Moments", was chosen to enable all Society members to participate, irrespective of their preferred categories.

The deadline for submitting entries is noon on Tuesday 9 May. Members may enter up to three images, previously evaluated or not, that were taken during the preceding 12 months. Entries, in digital format, must be emailed to cmnaude@gmail.com.

Each entrant will be responsible for having his or her selected images printed and mounted. Prints must be no bigger than A3 and no smaller than A4. The bigger, the better, within these limits.

A participants' fee of R110 will be payable, and all members will be asked to volunteer to do a stint as host for the exhibition, in the Hermanus Dutch Reformed Church Hall from 9-18 June.

All selected images will automatically be considered for the Print section of the Western Cape Interclub competition in November this year.

Photography to feature at FynArts

The art, skills and even history of photography will feature in several events during the FynArts festival, from 9-18 June.

Anita de Villiers will present two one-day workshops, both for more experienced photographers. The topics are "Black and white photography" and "Beyond the subject: exploring photography as fine art".

Emeritus Prof Michael Godby will talk on "South African photography – the past in the present".

Leanne Dryburgh and Peter Hassall from The Photo Walkers will present two halfday workshops, one on "Cellphone photography", and the other on "Lowlight photography".



Anita de Villiers

Details can be found in the FynArts booklet, which is freely available, and on www.hermanusfynarts.co.za.

FynArts images for FynArts

Club members have been invited by Mary Faure, Director, to take FynArts photographs for FynArts, for use in social media during the festival, and possibly in future publications.

Photographers will be given free entrance to the events that they wish to cover, if arranged in time.

FynArts needs no more than two images per event, and are interested in images of people enjoying the festival, children participation, outdoor activities, workshops, presentations, exhibitions, demonstrations, wine tasting and whatever else a photographer can think of.

Details of events can be found in the FynArts booklet, and at hermanusfynarts.co.za.

Images of about 1 MB should be sent to FynArts through "We Transfer".

If you are interested, and for more information, please contact Daniel Reddie at everredi@iafrica.com or 084 642 0038.

Committee

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All of them are available to assist you with your queries.

Fluit-fluit, my storie is uit.